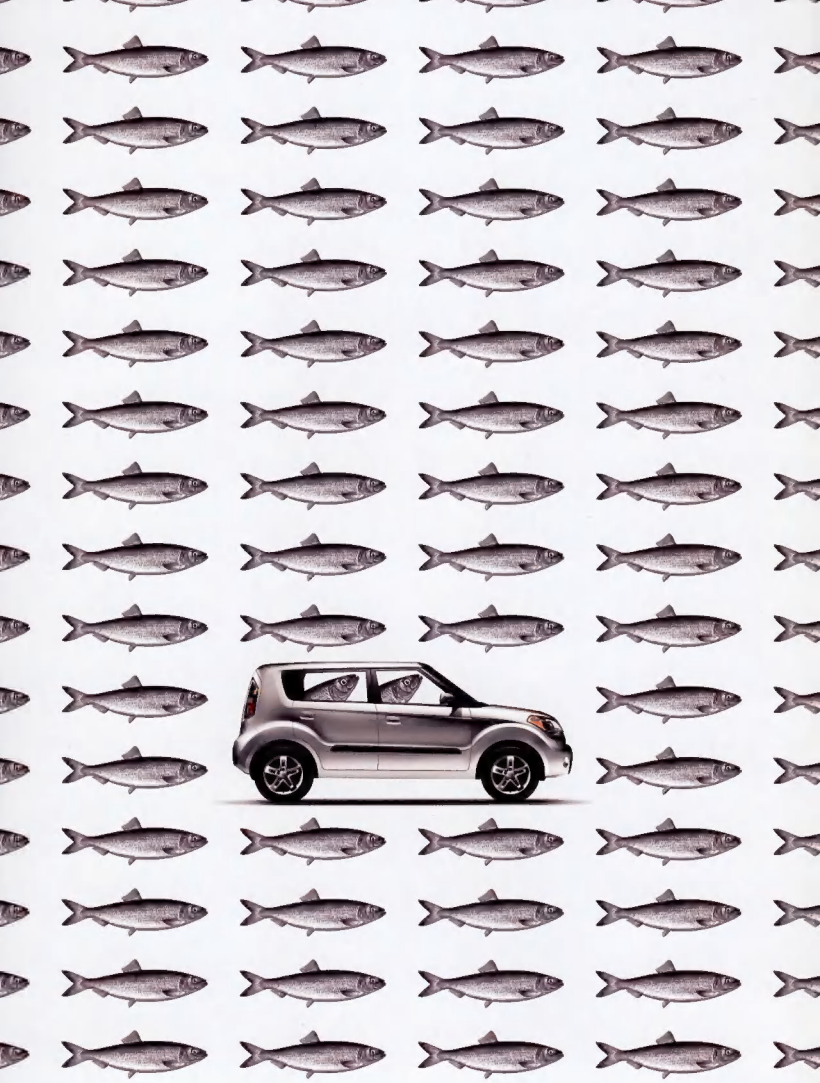

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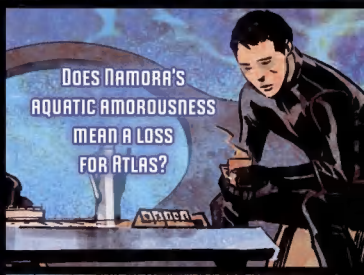
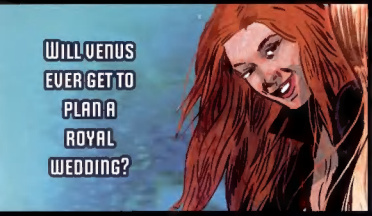
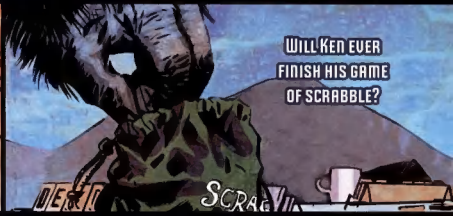
PREVIOUSLY ON AGENTS OF ATLAS...

After the shocking revelation that Agent Namora's royal cousin Namor was in league with the foul and treacherous Norman Osborn, the intrepid Agents took the plunge into the Atlantic in search of the Machiavellian merman. Little did they know that love was in the water and things were about to get fishy...





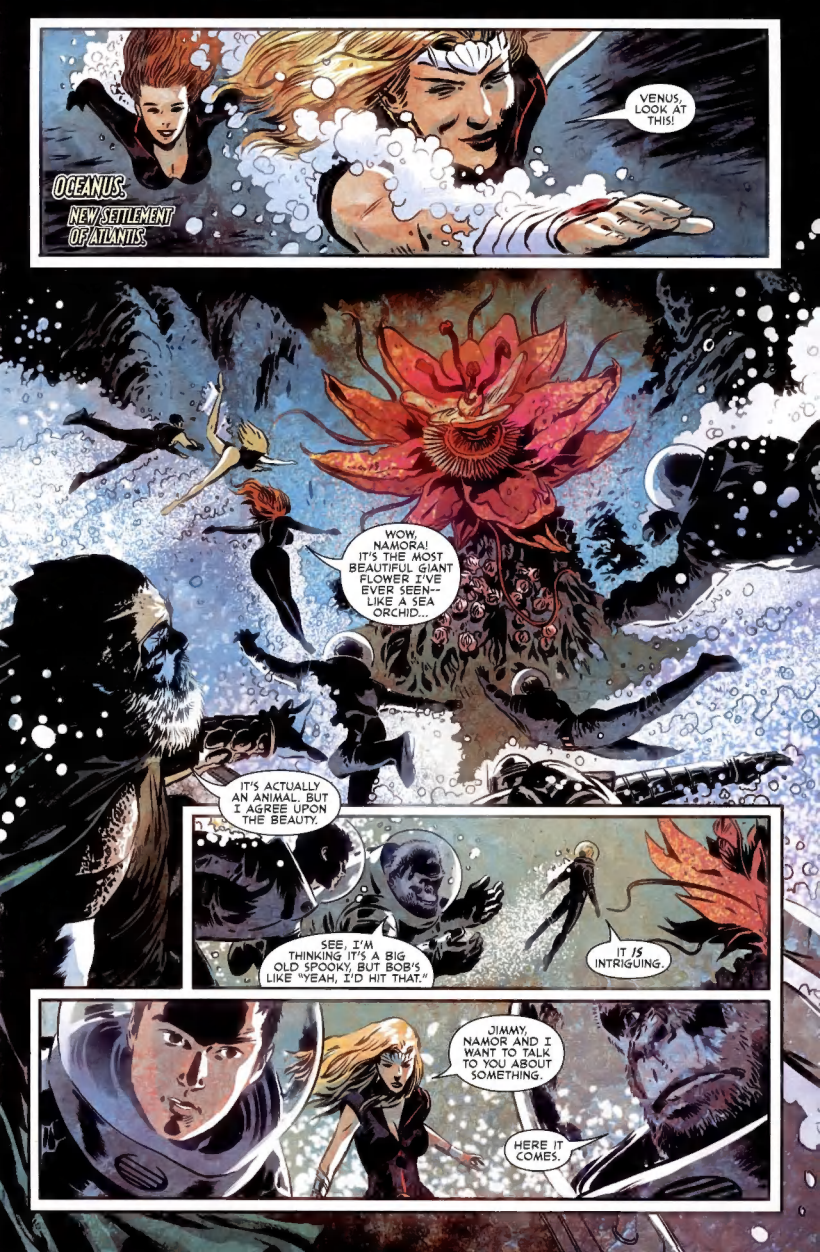


JUST WHO IS THE ATLANTEAN ELDER TULEM?

STAY TUNED FOR THESE ANSWERS AND MORE!

LIKE GORILLA-MAN ON A BANANA BINGE, THESE ARE THE AGENTS OF ATLAS...

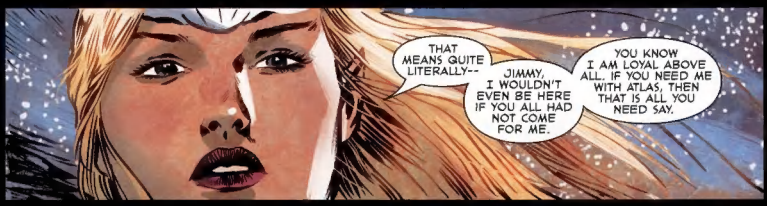
SAN FRANCISCO.
LING'S TEA HOUSE
HOW IS YOUR FOOD, SIR?
VERY GOOD, BUT...
I WAS GIVEN THIS CARD THAT HAD MY NAME ON IT.
DOES SOMEONE HERE KNOW WHO I AM?
CLIK
Ah. ONE MOMENT PLEASE.
HEY!
PARDONS, MR. KHANATA.
EXCEEDING PRIVACY IS NEEDED.
WE ARE AUTHORIZED BY MASTER WOO TO OFFER YOU A DEMANDING POSITION WITHIN THE TOP LEVEL OF THE ATLAS FOUNDATION.
PLEASE MAKE YOURSELF COMFORTABLE AS THE WARRIOR SCHOLARS OUTLINE THE DUTIES OF THE OFFICE.
O-KAYYY...


VENUS, LOOK AT THIS!
OCEANUS, NEW SETTLEMENT OF ATLANTIS.
WOW, NAMORA! IT'S THE MOST BEAUTIFUL GIANT FLOWER I'VE EVER SEEN-- LIKE A SEA ORCHID...
IT'S ACTUALLY AN ANIMAL, BUT I AGREE UPON THE BEAUTY.
SEE, I'M THINKING IT'S A BIG OLD SPOOKY, BUT BOB'S LIKE "YEAH, I'D HIT THAT."
IT IS INTRIGUING.
JIMMY, NAMOR AND I WANT TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT SOMETHING.
HERE IT COMES.

JIMMY, WE'D LIKE YOU TO TAKE PART IN AN ATLANTEAN CONSUMMATION CEREMONY.
YOU HAVE TO LEARN A FEW LINES--ESSENTIALLY YOU'D BE GIVING ME AWAY.
Oh YAY! THIS IS SO TERRIFIC--A ROYAL WEDDING!
NO, IT'S NOT.

SECRETS of the DEEP PART TWO

WRITER: JEFF PARKER ARTIST: GABRIEL HARDMAN COLORIST: JANA SCHIRMER LETTERER: BLAMBOT'S NATE PIEKOS
COVER: LEINIL YU & LAURA MARTIN PRODUCTION: IRENE LEE ASSISTANT EDITOR: LAUREN SANKOVITCH ASSOCIATE EDITOR: NATHAN COSBY
EDITOR: MARK PANICCIA EDITOR IN CHIEF: JOE QUESADA PUBLISHER: DAN BUCKLEY EXECUTIVE PRODUCER: ALAN FINE


THAT MEANS QUITE LITERALLY--
JIMMY, I WOULDN'T EVEN BE HERE IF YOU ALL HAD NOT COME FOR ME.
YOU KNOW I AM LOYAL ABOVE ALL. IF YOU NEED ME WITH ATLAS, THEN THAT IS ALL YOU NEED SAY.

NO, I JUST WANT YOU WITH ATLAS.
BUT WE'LL GET BY. FOLLOW YOUR HEART AND BE HAPPY.
THANK YOU.
ARE YOU DOING THIS?!
I AM TOTALLY NOT!
CAUSE FOR CELEBRATION--COME, LET'S RETURN TO THE GARDENS!
FOR HER HAPPINESS... YOU WOULD SACRIFICE YOUR MOST POWERFUL ASSET?
Nah, I'M NOT GOING ANYWHERE.
HAVE TRUE LEADERS RETURNED TO THE LAND AT LAST?
AW SHUCKS.

I'VE NOT HAD TIME TO INSPECT THIS MEGAFORM--I WOULD TOUCH NOTHING.
I WILL HELP YOU EXAMINE THIS ONE.
THIS WORK IS BEST DONE BY ATLANTEAN BIOLOGISTS, NOW PLEASE COME AWAY!
NAMORA HAS TOLD ME THAT YOUR ROYAL COUNSEL APPOINTED A SECOND TO YOUR RULE.
SEE, THEY CALL THEM "SECRETS" BECAUSE YOU KEEP THEM TO YOURSELF.
I DIDN'T WANT HIM THINKING JIMMY WAS A CRIMINAL.
Oh, BUT IT'S FINE IF I LOOK LIKE A THUG!
Oh YEAH, TEMUGIN. HE'S A REAL PILL, BUT I GUESS IT GOES WITH THE TERRITORY.
MORE THAN THAT, IT IS THE TERRITORY.
IT WAS MY CONSTANT DISTRACTIONS WITH THE SURFACE THAT LET DISSENT GROW UNCHECKED IN ATLANTIS.
DESTRUCTION CAME AT THE HANDS OF MY OWN PEOPLE...
...MY OWN SON OF WHOM I KNEW NOTHING.

LEGGO, BRUTE!
VENUS, YOU'RE PERSUASIVE--CAN YOU CONVINCE THEM TO RETURN SO WE MAY TOAST THIS?
AH, NOW THAT WOULDN'T BE FAIR.
I TRY TO LIMIT MY INTERACTIONS TO THE SEAS, BUT SOMEONE ALWAYS PULLS AT ME FROM ABOVE.
THEN MAY I HUMBLY SUGGEST YOU CUT THAT CONNECTION TO OSBORN?
IF I IGNORE HIM, MY PEOPLE WILL BE AFFECTED STILL.
YOU ARE IN A DIFFERENT POSITION, HANDED A VIPER'S PIT TO RULE.
NO, MY PEOPLE ARE THE CITIZENS OF THE SURFACE WORLD. THAT'S WHO I WATCH OUT FOR.
AND IF I HAVE TO USE VIPERS AND A DRAGON TO DO IT, THEN I WILL.
EITHER WAY, YOUR OWN HOUSE MUST BE IN ORDER FIRST.
IT IS FAR TOO EASY TO LOSE WHAT YOU'VE BUILT.
SOUND ADVICE, MY KING. NOW PLEASE...
...MAY WE RETURN TO THE PALACE?

WHAT'S HAPPENING?
HEY!
FLEE! EVERYONE GET OUT!
GYAH! WHAT IS THIS?!
AHH!
EVERYONE... THIS WHOLE AREA IS A LIVING ORGANISM.
THE SUITS WON'T HOLD LONG AGAINST ITS CORROSIVE CHEMICALS--WE MUST GET OUT OF REACH.
Oh.
M-11, CAN YOU LOCATE US?

LET GO, I HAVE TO HELP THEM!
YOU WILL ADD TO THE DANGER--
--THE ROYAL COUPLE CAN DEFEAT THIS, WE MUST STAY OUT OF THEIR WAY!
WHAT VILE CREATURE IS THIS?
HOW DID WE NOT COME ACROSS IT BEFORE?
NNYAH!
I CAN ALREADY FEEL WATER LEAKING IN MY SUIT!
WHERE'S THAT ROBOT?!
VSSSH
SORRY, KEN, HE WAS CUTTING ME LOOSE!
THAT'S WHAT I'M TALKIN' ABOUT!
GET THIS ONE OVER HERE, TOO!

GRAYSON! ARE YOU OKAY?
SAY SOMETHING! I ALMOST DIDN'T FIND YOU!
AGHH, THESE THINGS BURN LIKE HELL!
I IMAGINE THEY DO.
YOU'RE WELCOME, BOB.
M-11 WOULD HAVE REACHED ME IN TIME IF YOU HAD NOT--AS YOU SEE.
I'VE DISCOVERED SOMETHING YOU MIGHT FIND... DISTURBING. I'M GOING TO LOOP US.
I'M NOT CONNECTING EVERYONE HERE, JUST A FEW OF US.
AS M-11 CONTINUES TO SUBDUE THE CREATURE, I WILL SHARE WHAT I'VE LEARNED.
THEN, WITH YOUR PERMISSION, I WILL CREATE AN ILLUSION THAT WILL LIKELY RELEASE MORE INFORMATION.
SURE BOB, GIVE IT TO US.

THE INK CLOUD IS CLEARING...
IT LOOKS LIKE M-11 IS DOING IT!
Oh NO!!!
THIS--THIS SHOULDN'T HAVE HAPPENED! NOT TO THE ROYALS!
THE SKULORA SHOULDN'T HAVE BEEN ABLE TO KILL THEM! NOT WITH THEIR BIOLOGY!
CAN WE CALL MEDICS?
ARE THEY... DEAD?
I HAVE EVERYTHING I NEED NOW.
IT'S ALL RIGHT, V-- WE'RE FINE.
SORRY, I THOUGHT BOB HAD LOOPED YOU IN.
AN ILLUSION?
YEAH, PLEASE DON'T CRY!
JERK MOVE, BOB.
HER HONEST REACTION WAS CRITICAL.

CRITICAL TO WHAT?! WHAT MORBID JOKE IS THIS?
OUR NEPTUNA CALLS YOU FRIENDS?!
YOU CAN DROP THE OUTRAGE, TULEM.
WE KNOW YOU BROUGHT US HERE SO THAT CREATURE WOULD ATTACK US.
NO, I--
BOB READ YOUR MIND.
YOU KNEW THAT NAMORA AND YOUR KING WOULD ONLY BE HURT, BUT WE'D DIE.
AND THERE'D BE NO ONE TO PULL HER BACK TO SURFACE LIFE.
I TRIED TO MAKE YOU ALL LEAVE!
YEAH, AFTER JIMMY SAID SHE COULD STAY.
I WILL SAY NOTHING.
THERE WILL BE NO SECRETS KEPT FROM ME, TULEM--EVEN BY YOU!
URANIAN, I WOULD SEE WHAT YOU HAVE FOUND.
TULEM HAS BEEN PART OF AN ATLANTEAN EUGENICS PROGRAM CARRIED ON BY THE COUNCIL OF ELDERS SINCE BEFORE YOU WERE BORN.
CENTURIES AGO THE COUNCIL OF ELDERS DISCOVERED LOST DATA ON HUMANS AND ATLANTEANS--AND THE GENETIC POSSIBILITIES OF REUNITING THE LINES.
TRIGGERING HYBRID MUTATION.

AVOID GAS HOGS!

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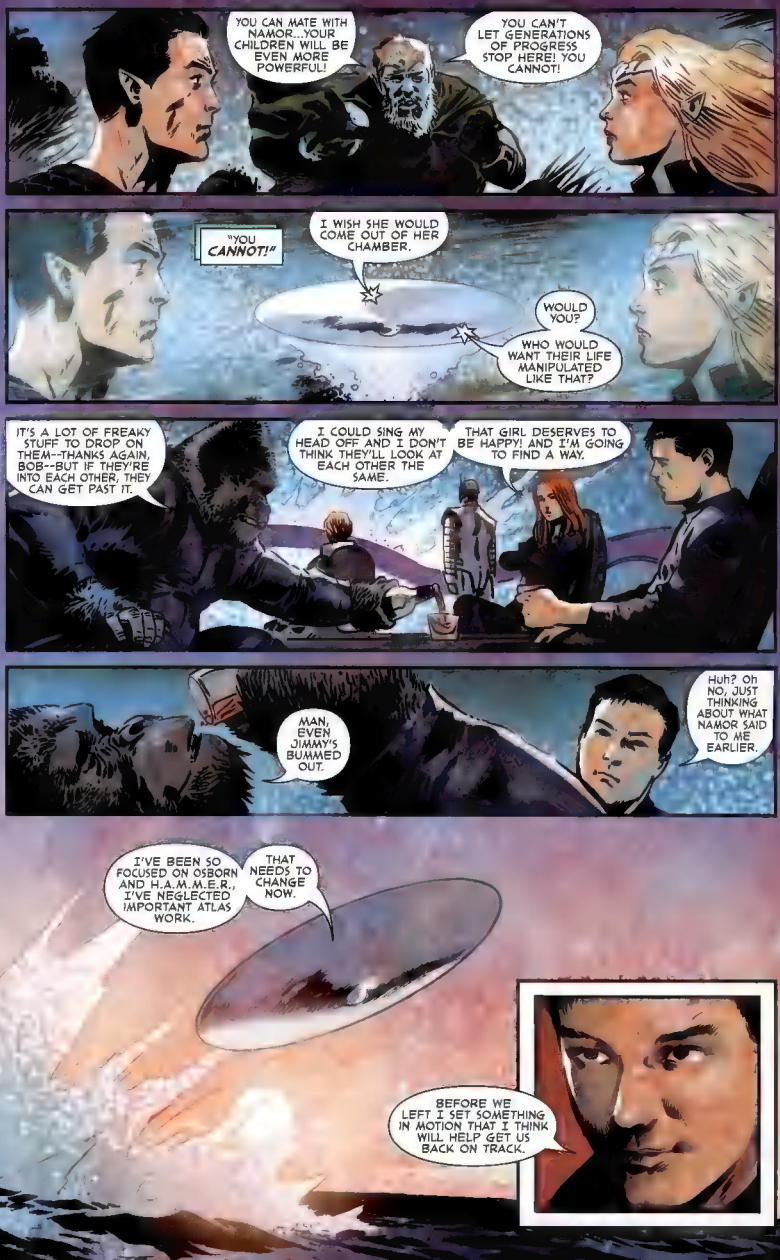
fit.honda.com

MERE ENTERTAINING THEORY UNTIL THEY SAW PROOF OF IT.
WHEN PRINCESS FEN WAS SENT TO INVESTIGATE THE ICEBREAKER ORACLE IN THE ANTARCTIC. SHE FELL IN LOVE WITH THE CAPTAIN, LEONARD MCKENZIE--AND SOON NAMOR WAS BORN.
IT WASN'T LONG BEFORE HIS MIGHT WAS EVIDENT. THE ELDERS SAW THEIR CHANCE TO BREED MORE POWERFUL HYBRIDS IN SERVICE OF ATLANTIS.
THEY ABDUCTED SURFACE PEOPLE TO MATE THEM WITH ATLANTEANS. ATTEMPTS FAILED, BUT THEY LEARNED MORE ABOUT WHICH GENES WOULD BE COMPATIBLE.
NAMORA'S FATHER WAS A GOOD CANDIDATE SO HIS PARENTS WERE FORCED TO GIVE HIM UP FOR ADOPTION BY THE ROYAL FAMILY.
WHEN HE CAME OF AGE, AN ICELANDIC WOMAN WAS CHOSEN FOR HIM, AND RETURNED AFTER DELIVERING THE CHILD. HE WAS NOT ALLOWED TO REVEAL THIS.
THE ELDERS THOUGHT THEY HAD FAILED, BUT IN TIME, NAMORA'S STRENGTH MANIFESTED AND HER BLUE SKIN BEGAN TO CHANGE.
AS BOTH OF YOU FOUND, IT IS DIFFICULT TO HAVE YOUR OWN CHILDREN. ONLY TOGETHER WOULD IT BE PROBABLE, AND ALSO PASS ON ALL OF YOUR PHYSICAL BENEFITS.
TULEM'S GREATEST DESIRE HAS BEEN TO BRING YOU TOGETHER AT LAST.
TULEM... HOW COULD YOU HAVE BEEN PART OF THIS?
WE *NEEDED* TO CREATE MODERN GODS OF THE SEA. ATLANTIS WAS ON THE VERGE OF EXTINCTION.
NAMOR HAS KEPT OUR PEOPLE ALIVE--COULD HE HAVE DONE IT WITHOUT HIS GREAT STRENGTH?
NAMORA, WHEN YOU COULDN'T BEAR CHILDREN WITH TALAN, WE GAVE YOU A CLONE. BUT HER MIGHT WAS *NOTHING* TO YOURS.


YOU CAN MATE WITH NAMOR...YOUR CHILDREN WILL BE EVEN MORE POWERFUL!
YOU CAN'T LET GENERATIONS OF PROGRESS STOP HERE! YOU CANNOT!
"YOU CANNOT!"
I WISH SHE WOULD COME OUT OF HER CHAMBER.
WOULD YOU?
WHO WOULD WANT THEIR LIFE MANIPULATED LIKE THAT?
IT'S A LOT OF FREAKY STUFF TO DROP ON THEM--THANKS AGAIN, BOB--BUT IF THEY'RE INTO EACH OTHER, THEY CAN GET PAST IT.
I COULD SING MY HEAD OFF AND I DON'T THINK THEY'LL LOOK AT EACH OTHER THE SAME.
THAT GIRL DESERVES TO BE HAPPY! AND I'M GOING TO FIND A WAY.
MAN, EVEN JIMMY'S BUMMED OUT.
Huh? Oh NO, JUST THINKING ABOUT WHAT NAMOR SAID TO ME EARLIER.
I'VE BEEN SO FOCUSED ON OSBORN AND H.A.M.M.E.R., I'VE NEGLECTED IMPORTANT ATLAS WORK.
THAT NEEDS TO CHANGE NOW.
BEFORE WE LEFT I SET SOMETHING IN MOTION THAT I THINK WILL HELP GET US BACK ON TRACK.

I BELIEVE THIS IS YOUR HOUSE, MR. KHANATA.
YES, THANKS FOR THE RIDE-- AND THE OFFER.
IT'S A TALL ORDER, REFORMING A CUTTHROAT ORGANIZATION INTO LAW-ABIDING OPERATIVES.
I HOPE THE SALARY IS TO YOUR SATISFACTION.
Oh, WELL-- YES. VERY MUCH. OF COURSE...
...I MAY NEED TO SET UP SOME SAFEGUARDS FOR MY FAMILY.
NOT A PROBLEM.
SHADOW WARRIORS HAVE ALREADY BEEN GUARDING THEM SECRETLY FOR PAST FOUR MONTHS.
GOOD DAY, MR. KHANATA.
WHO WAS THAT, DEREK? IS EVERYTHING OKAY?
Heh.
JIMMY WOO...
...I LOVE YOU!
TO BE CONTINUED...

THE HIDDEN CITY. NOW.
HONORABLE SECOND! PLEASE PROCEED NO FUR--
OUT OF MY WAY! I MUST SEE MR. LAO!
WHAT IS THIS DISTURBANCE?
TELL MR. LAO THAT TEMUGIN SEEKS AN AUDIENCE WITH HIM!
MASTER WOO AND THE INNER CIRCLE HAVE BEEN AWAY NOW FOR DAYS WITH NO REPORTS.
THEY ARE LIKELY DEAD, WHICH MEANS I MUST ASCEND TO THE ROLE OF KHAN AND LEAD THE GOLDEN HORDE OF ATLAS.
BE THAT AS IT MAY, WE MUST HAVE SILENCE...
MR. LAO IS SLEEPING
WRITER: JEFF PARKER
PENCILER: CARLO PAGULAYAN
INKER: JASON PAZ
COLORIST: ELIZABETH DISHMAN
LETTERER: TOM ORZECHOWSKI
PRODUCTION: IRENE LEE
ASSISTANT EDITOR: LAUREN SANKOVITCH
ASSOCIATE EDITOR: NATHAN COSBY
SENIOR EDITOR: MARK PANICCIA
EDITOR IN CHIEF: JOE QUESADA
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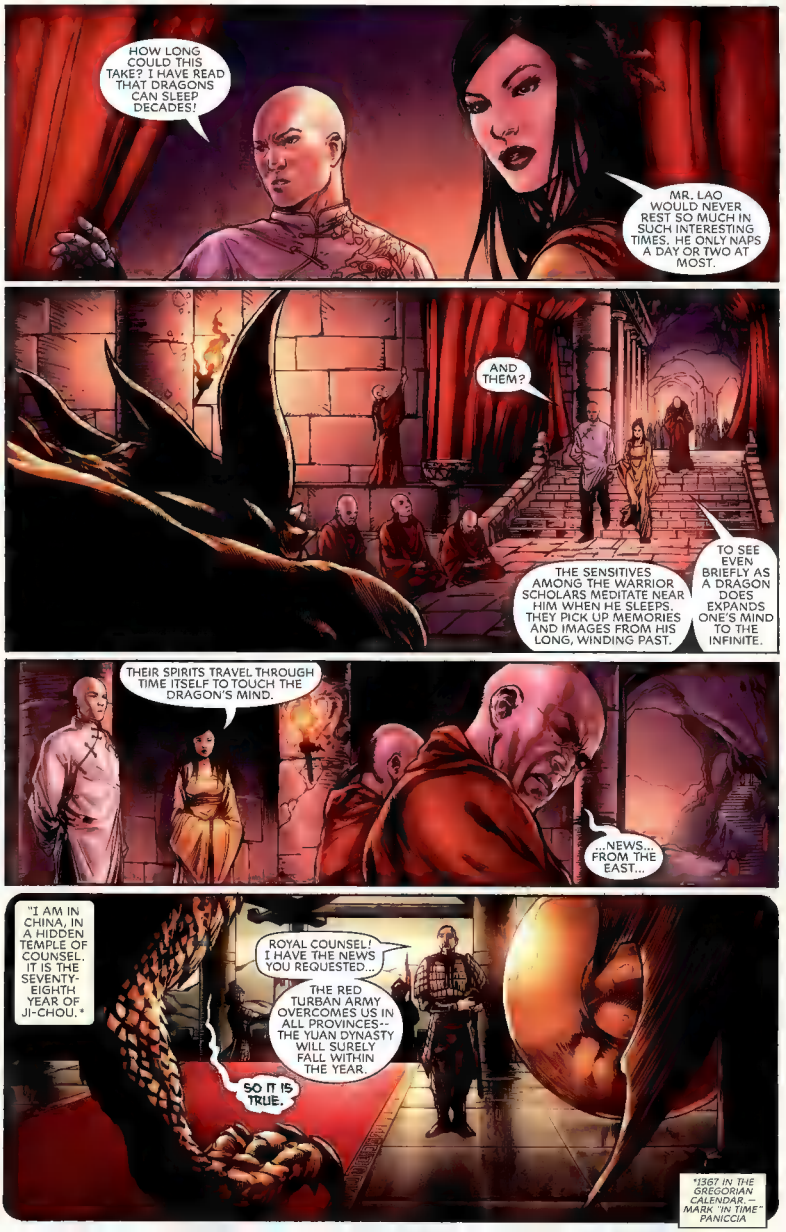
HOW LONG COULD THIS TAKE? I HAVE READ THAT DRAGONS CAN SLEEP DECADES!
MR. LAO WOULD NEVER REST SO MUCH IN SUCH INTERESTING TIMES. HE ONLY NAPS A DAY OR TWO AT MOST.
AND THEM?
THE SENSITIVES AMONG THE WARRIOR SCHOLARS MEDITATE NEAR HIM WHEN HE SLEEPS. THEY PICK UP MEMORIES AND IMAGES FROM HIS LONG, WINDING PAST.
TO SEE EVEN BRIEFLY AS A DRAGON DOES EXPANDS ONE'S MIND TO THE INFINITE.
THEIR SPIRITS TRAVEL THROUGH TIME ITSELF TO TOUCH THE DRAGON'S MIND.
...NEWS... FROM THE EAST...
"I AM IN CHINA, IN A HIDDEN TEMPLE OF COUNSEL. IT IS THE SEVENTY-EIGHTH YEAR OF JI-CHOU.*
ROYAL COUNSEL! I HAVE THE NEWS YOU REQUESTED...
THE RED TURBAN ARMY OVERCOMES US IN ALL PROVINCES-- THE YUAN DYNASTY WILL SURELY FALL WITHIN THE YEAR.
SO IT IS TRUE.
*1367 IN THE GREGORIAN CALENDAR. — MARK "IN TIME" PANICCIA

TOGHUN TEMUR IGNORES MY COUNSEL, GIVES ME FALSE NEWS, AND NOW WE FACE AN IMPENDING MING DYNASTY.
THE SONS OF KUBLAI WERE OF THIN STOCK INDEED.
THE TRUE LOYALS OF THE HORDE KNOW TO LISTEN TO YOU, GREAT LAO...
THEN TELL THEM TO KEEP THE KHANATE INTACT AND UNDERGROUND IF NEED BE.
I LEAVE TO FIND A SECRET HELD BY THE DJINN OF PERSIA.
IF I RETURN, YOU SHALL HAVE A KHAN WORTH FOLLOWING.
HE FLIES... MONTHS HE SEARCHES...
FINALLY HE MUST GO DOWN...TO ALGERIA... MOROCCO...

"...IN THE MOUNTAINS OF ATLAS."
THERE IS NOTHING HARDER TO FIND THAN A MASTERLESS DJINN.
PITIABLE MERCHANT. WOULD YOU KNOW WHERE ONE IS?
EFFENDI... I DO NOT KNOW, UPON MY LIFE.
I HAVE LITTLE TIME LEFT TO WASTE. REVEAL YOURSELF...
AL-SHALIZAR.
I HOLD YOUR NAME, GENIE. NOW GIVE ME THE ANSWERS I SEEK.
YOU SPEAK BY THE LAWS WHICH HOLD BETWEEN DJINN AND MAN, GREAT LIZARD.
I AM NOT BOUND THE SAME WAY TO YOUR KIND!
WRHAA OOARRRH!!!
"THE MOUNTAINS SHOOK WITH THEIR BATTLE. THE HOLY CITY OF FEZ FELT THE QUAKES SO FAR AWAY."

"BUT TO STRIKE, THE DJINN HAD TO BECOME SOLID. AND WHAT IS SOLID KNOWS THE HEAT OF LAO'S FIRE."
YOU KNOW THE MAGIC THAT WILL CHANGE ME INTO A MAN. GIVE IT TO ME AND YOU WILL LIVE.
YOU WILL HAVE IT. I MAY NOT REBUKE ONE WHO HAS DEFEATED ME.
"NOW I SEE AS A DRAGON...SEEING AS A DJINN.
"THEY WIND THROUGH TO A CAVE OF WONDERS... AND INTO... NO!
"INTO A LAMP!"
WHY DID YOU BRING ME INTO THIS?!
IT IS THE SAFEST... PLACE TO KEEP ALL RECORDS OF MAGIC. ALL... ...LOST KNOWLEDGE.
THERE ARE THOUSANDS OF SCROLLS, WHICH WILL GIVE ME THE SECRET OF TRANSFORMATION?
I FORGET.
BUT YOU WILL HAVE MORE THAN ENOUGH TIME TO FIND IT...

ATLAS.
VMMMMMMMMMMMM
SNNRTT
WHAT!
THE INNER CIRCLE HAS RETURNED.
AW YEAH, THE PARTY IS BACK. WHO MISSED ME?
TEMUGIN. DID YOU WISH TO SPEAK OF SOMETHING?
NO.
I MUST GO MEDITATE.
CHANG, MY MAN! YOU DIDN'T BURN THE PLACE DOWN?
WELCOME BACK, GENERAL HALE.
SO, JAMES. DID YOU BREAK NAMOR'S ALLIANCE WITH THE SHADOW GOVERNMENT?
I'M NOT SURE. BUT YOU'LL BE GLAD TO KNOW OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH THE ATLANTEANS IS VERY SOLID.

I AM PLEASED INDEED.
MR. LAO--I'VE BEEN MEANING TO ASK... WHATEVER BECAME OF SUWAN?
MASTER PLAN'S LAST MESSAGE TO ME SAID THERE HAD BEEN TROUBLE AT SOME POINT...
SOME TROUBLE. HA HA.
PLAN WAS ALSO A MASTER OF UNDERSTATE-MENT.
WALK WITH ME, AND I SHALL ENDEAVOR TO FILL IN THAT GAP OF ATLAS HISTORY.
I WOULD THINK IT'S ONLY PERSONAL HISTORY.
OH NO.
TELL ME, JAMES...
...DID IT NEVER CROSS YOUR MIND TO WONDER WHY AN EMPIRE WITH MONGOLIAN LINEAGE...
...IS NO LONGER IN ASIA?
TO BE CONTINUED...

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